

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 23, with the following amended paragraph:

a1 ~~The Figure~~ Fig. 1 shows an example embodiment of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 27, with the following amended paragraph:

a1 ~~The FIGURE~~ Fig. 1 shows a block diagram of a machine tool WZM whose operation is controlled by a numerical controller NC which, in turn, has an interface controller PLC alongside it. Data is interchanged between the numerical controller NC, the interface controller PLC and the machine tool WZM via a bus system B1. The numerical controller NC also includes a control panel BT, which is connected to the numerical controller NC via a bus system B2. The control panel BT has an associated display D for showing the desired or actual operation of the machine tool WZM. In addition, a keyboard T for an operator to input data is also provided on the control panel BT.